

HB 1119 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Government Operations & Elections

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 42.52.185 and 1997 c 320 s 1 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) During the twelve-month period beginning on December 1st of the
6 year before a general election for a state legislator's election to
7 office and continuing through November 30th immediately after the
8 general election, the legislator may not (~~mail, either by regular mail
9 or electronic mail,~~) by regular mail send to a constituent at public
10 expense a letter, newsletter, brochure, or other piece of literature,
11 except as follows:

12 (a) The legislator may mail two mailings of newsletters to
13 constituents. All newsletters within each mailing of newsletters must
14 be identical as to their content but not as to the constituent name or
15 address. One such mailing may be mailed no later than thirty days
16 after the start of a regular legislative session, except that a
17 legislator appointed during a regular legislative session to fill a
18 vacant seat may have up to thirty days from the date of appointment to
19 send out the first mailing. The other mailing may be mailed no later
20 than sixty days after the end of a regular legislative session.

21 (b) The legislator may mail an individual letter to (i) an
22 individual constituent who has contacted the legislator regarding the
23 subject matter of the letter during the legislator's current term of
24 office; (ii) an individual constituent who holds a governmental office
25 with jurisdiction over the subject matter of the letter; or (iii) an
26 individual constituent who has received an award or honor of
27 extraordinary distinction of a type that is sufficiently infrequent to
28 be noteworthy to a reasonable person, including, but not limited to:
29 (A) An international or national award such as the Nobel prize or the

1 Pulitzer prize; (B) a state award such as Washington scholar; (C) an
2 Eagle Scout award; and (D) a Medal of Honor.

3 (2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, "legislator"
4 means a legislator who is a "candidate," as defined by RCW 42.17.020,
5 for any public office.

6 (3) A violation of this section constitutes use of the facilities
7 of a public office for the purpose of assisting a campaign under RCW
8 42.52.180.

9 (4) The house of representatives and senate shall specifically
10 limit expenditures per member for the total cost of mailings. Those
11 costs include, but are not limited to, production costs, printing
12 costs, and postage costs. The limits imposed under this subsection
13 apply only to the total expenditures on mailings per member and not to
14 any categorical cost within the total.

15 (5) For purposes of this section, persons residing outside the
16 legislative district represented by the legislator are not considered
17 to be constituents, but students, military personnel, or others
18 temporarily employed outside of the district who normally reside in the
19 district are considered to be constituents.

20 (6) During the period beginning on December 1st of the year before
21 a general election for a state legislator's election to office and
22 continuing through the forty-fifth day after adjournment of the next
23 regular legislative session, the legislator may send to a constituent
24 at public expense a letter, newsletter, brochure, or other piece of
25 literature, on any specific type of subject by electronic mail no more
26 than once per week or portion thereof for each specific type of
27 subject."

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28 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "legislators;" strike the
29 remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 42.52.185."

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